

CLEARING UP THE RECORD.

GEN. GRANT'S MILITARY SUBORDINATION IN THE TENNESSEE RIVER CAMPAIGN.

His Victory at Donelson—Disposition to Find Fault—Halleck Reports "There Never Was Any Want of Military Subordination"—Grant Was Not Arrested.

The War of the Rebellion Records afford the means of accurately and specifically dispelling certain misunderstandings in respect to the record of Gen. Grant in the Tennessee river campaign.

The world knows that on Feb. 16, 1862, Gen. Grant was in command of the federal forces which were investing Fort Donelson. The Confederate Gen. Buckner sent a message to Gen. Grant proposing "the appointment of commissioners to agree upon terms of capitulation of the forces and post" under Buckner's command. Grant's famous, quick response was:

"No terms except unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move immediately upon your works."

To which Buckner replied that he was compelled "to accept the ungenerous and unchivalrous terms which you propose," and thereupon the "forces and post" were surrendered.

If these terms were "unchivalrous," certainly the treatment afterward of Buckner and his officers and men was "generous," for Buckner was consulted with reference to details of providing for his men as prisoners of war, and all of his officers were allowed to retain their side arms.

Shortly after this brilliant achievement of the Union forces under Grant, Gen. Halleck, the major general in command of the department of Missouri, and the immediate superior officer of Grant, while irritated, "worn out, and tired," arrived at some very unfavorable conclusions, which led him to make reflections upon all officers in the army of the Tennessee with the single exception of Gen. Smith. Here is the dispatch which he sent to Gen. McClellan, then in command of the armies at Washington:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS, March 3, 1862.—GEN. GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, Washington, D. C.: I have had no communication with Gen. Grant for more than a week. He left his command without any authority and went to Nashville. His army seems to be as much demoralized by the victory of Fort Donelson as was that of the Potomac by the defeat of Bull Run. It is hard to secure a successful general immediately after a victory, but I think he richly deserves it. I can get no returns, no reports, no information of any kind from him. Satisfied with his victory, he sits down and enjoys it without any regard to the future. I am worn out and tired with this neglect and inefficiency. C. F. Smith is almost the only officer equal to the emergency.

As a result of those complaints by Halleck the following was sent by Gen. McClellan at 6 p. m. of the same day: WASHINGTON, March 3, 1862, 6 p. m.—Maj. GEN. H. W. HALLACK, St. Louis, Mo.: The future success of our cause demands that proceedings such as Grant's should at once be checked. Generals must observe discipline as well as private soldiers. Do not hesitate to arrest him at once if the post of the service requires it, and place C. F. Smith in command. You are at liberty to regard this as a positive order if it will smooth your way. I appreciate the difficulties you have to encounter, and will be glad to relieve you from trouble as far as possible.

Approved: GEO. B. McCLELLAN, Maj. Gen., commanding U. S. Army. EDWARD M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

The next day Halleck, still provoked, communicated a rumor suggesting that Gen. Grant had gone on a spree, and that that would probably account for the latter's neglect of orders:

ST. LOUIS, March 4, 1862.—Maj. GEN. McCLELLAN, Washington: A rumor has just reached me that since the taking of Fort Donelson Gen. Grant has resumed his former bad habits. If so, it will account for his neglect of his often-repeated orders. I do not deem it advisable to arrest him at present, but have placed Gen. Smith in command of the expedition of the Tennessee. I think Smith will restore order and discipline.

H. W. HALLACK, Major General.

Although Gen. Halleck was not disposed to arrest Grant he did put Smith in command of the expedition which Grant was to have commanded, and which he did subsequently command.

President Lincoln would not take "snap judgment" against Gen. Grant, but, instead, he had the following dispatch sent, ordering Gen. Halleck to get at the facts and report them as a basis for fair judgment:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, March 10, 1862.—Maj. GEN. H. W. HALLACK, U. S. A., Commanding Department of the Missouri, St. Louis: It has been reported that soon after the battle of Fort Donelson General Grant left his command without leave, and that he left his command at any time without proper authority, and if so, for how long; whether he has made to you proper reports of the actions of his force; whether he has committed any acts which were unauthorized or not in accordance with military subordination or propriety, and if so, what?

Adjutant General.

Gen. Halleck's report, two days later, as a result of his investigation, was a complete, manly vindication of Gen. Grant, even as against his (Halleck's) own previous complaints and the "rumor" about Grant's having "resumed his former bad habits," and Grant was "directed" to resume his command in the field.

This is what Halleck reported: ST. LOUIS, March 15, 1862.—Maj. GEN. LORENZO THOMAS, Adjutant General of the Army, Washington: In accordance with the instructions of the 10th inst., I have examined Gen. Grant and several officers of high rank in his command, immediately after the battle of Fort Donelson, and have without reservation reported the facts as they are, and have endeavored to subserve the public interest.

Not being advised of Gen. Grant's movements and learning that Gen. Buell had ordered Smith's division of his (Grant's) command to Nashville, I have immediately returned there in person. During the absence of Gen. Grant and a part of his general officers, numerous irregularities were said to have occurred at Fort Donelson. These were in violation of orders issued by Gen. Grant before his departure, and, in many instances, were unavoidable.

Gen. Grant has made the proper explanations, and has been directed to resume his command in the field. As he acted from a desire to subserve the public interest, and as he has been directed to resume his command in the field, I respectfully recommend that no further notice be taken of the irregularities which have been reported, and that he be allowed to continue his command in the field.

Major General.

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Best Cut Sugar,	"	7 1/2 Cents
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Best Brown Sugar,	"	6 Cents
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Best Print Butter,	"	40 Cents
Best Yellow Evaporated Peaches,	"	30 Cents
Best White Evaporated Peaches,	"	25 Cents
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Best Dried Cherries,	"	18 Cents
Best Breakfast Hominy,	"	3 Cents
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Best Iowa Oat Meal,	"	4 Cents
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Best Full-Gallon Cans Tomatoes,	per dozen,	\$2 40
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Sifted (not Early June) American Peas,	"	2 00
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Best 3-pound Can Tomatoes,	"	1 10
Best Canned Corn,	"	1 10
Best Houston Table Peaches,	"	3 00
Best Canned String Beans,	"	1 20
Best Canned Lima Beans,	"	1 50
Best Canned Succotash,	"	2 00
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daily the number and positions of the forces under your command. Your neglect of repeated orders to report the strength of my command. Every move I made was reported daily to your chief of staff, who must have failed to keep you properly posted. I do not wish to impute in any way the success of our arms. I have averaged writing more than once a day since leaving St. Louis. I have reported my position, and it is no fault of mine if you have not received my reports. My going to Nashville was strictly intended for the good of the service, and not to gratify any desire of my own.

On the following day, March 7, Gen. Grant, at Fort Henry, replied to Gen. Halleck: Your dispatch of yesterday just received. I did all I could to get you returns of the strength of my command. Every move I made was reported daily to your chief of staff, who must have failed to keep you properly posted. I do not wish to impute in any way the success of our arms. I have averaged writing more than once a day since leaving St. Louis. I have reported my position, and it is no fault of mine if you have not received my reports. My going to Nashville was strictly intended for the good of the service, and not to gratify any desire of my own.

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BOOKER'S MULE.

The Deacon Gives Some Accounts of His Wonderful Powers as a Kicker.

The other evening the old crowd, consisting of Bitterfowl, Possibilities Jones, and Clincher Handgown, was sitting in front of Jake Johnson's corner grocery, on Pacific street, talking of the chances to sell votes at the next election, when Deacon Boker came around the corner and took his accustomed seat on the pile of griststones, which Clincher Handgown vacated for his accommodation.

"I told you what, gen'u," said the deacon, as he settled himself, "I've seen a mule scrape around 'dere on a mule, dat bring back de scenes ob my earlier days when I owned de kickest mule in all dese parts," and de old man bowed his head in silence, as if grave thoughts were flitting through his brain.

"Caint yer tell w'en about dat ar mule," asked Possibilities Jones, seeing a prospect for a story from the old philosopher.

"Well, I reckon I kin," replied the deacon, "but it brings up berry rowwin' scenes, such as yer eint sel in dese ungodly times. I believe it war in de fall ob '62 dat a meek-lookin' chap cum aroun' and wanted to sel me a bay mule for \$10. It war a peart lookin' animal, an' I 'sented him all ober an' four days war as soon as a peach stone. So I borrowd some ob wife Nichebiel's wash money (de bank bein' closed), an' I bought dat mule; but oh! it war a mortal mistake, kase he war de dingiest kickin' an' striker dat ober wos a shuck collar."

"De day I bought him I rid ober to Parson Brown's for an' afternoon chat, an' de fun thing I new dat mule ober wos de day Jim Wilson's bull torrier. He cum out at de heels ob dat mule an' barked. But, my frens, jes' put it down as a fact dat he didn't yelp obly wos't; den de bay mule squatted and reached fur dat pup. All I remember ob 'scent' was jes' a faint glimmer ob bull dog waited ober Bill Bowen's barn, an' dea all was stue dat ob de front gate ob de parson's, an' we sot on de pouch an' smoked an' talked about de secasity ob chickens an' ober necessesity ob life. De parson had a lubback steer dat was uncommon pecky mean an' easy, an' dat steer cum aroun' an' bawled at de mule. De mule didn't say anythin', but jes' dropped one cab an' he' still. Den dat steer cum cluster an' reached with his h'n for dat mule's short ribs. De mule seemed kinder like as if he was tickled, but he tettered aroun' a little, an' den reached forth an' busted dat steer in de stomach till de whites in his eyes was as big as teapans."

"Yer better look out fer yer steer, parson," says I, "for dat mule is sorter bad, an' jes' a lubback steer dat was uncommon pecky mean an' easy, an' dat steer cum aroun' an' bawled at de mule. De mule didn't say anythin', but jes' dropped one cab an' he' still. Den dat steer cum cluster an' reached with his h'n for dat mule's short ribs. De mule seemed kinder like as if he was tickled, but he tettered aroun' a little, an' den reached forth an' busted dat steer in de stomach till de whites in his eyes was as big as teapans."

"Not any," says de parson; "yer jes' ake care ob dat mule, fer dat is de dan-kerous steer in all dese parts. De mule started fur de gate, an' jes' den was a general cause ob mule an' lubback steer, an' de mule seemed to hab de flesh mool ob de time. Dis is de parson's mule, an' he yanked a oak picket ob de fence, an' begun sensing aroun' fur dat mule's rear. Pooty soon he discovered what was a openin', an' he sorter reached fur dat animal's posterior."

"I nuber knowed jes' how it was, but de coroner's inquiry brag in a burdick dat he had exposed himself to de ravages ob de business ob an active mule wos't too often. De funeral was held de next day."

"What about de steer?" asked Bitterfowl.

darned mad dat he kicked at his tail all de afternoon; an' when I cum home dere was nuffin left but de e'ars, an' dey was a wiggin'." Dat mule was a pizen kicker, an' you can jes' gambion dat, an' de old lady bowed his head and heaved a sigh, while de others looked wild-eyed and exchanged grins.—Mort Wood, in San Francisco Post.

The Policeman Pondered.

"Hallo, feet?" exclaimed a facetious policeman, getting on a street car yesterday afternoon. His remark was addressed to the conductor, whose shoes were enveloped in rubbers three sizes too large for him. The space between the leather and the overshoes was packed with cotton wool to keep out the cold. It was the enormous size of the extremities that he referred to in his salutation. "You don't look well," he added.

"It was the mule," declared the conductor mysteriously, determined to be revenged for the policeman's sarcastic allusion.

"Dat meeting?"

"Well, since you must know," replied the conductor wearily after a pause that gave him time to dump a short-sighted lady in a puddle. "I suppose I must tell you. The finances of this line have not been looking encouraging lately—dividends have been kind of small. The drivers used to get together at the depot and talk over matters, but somehow or other they couldn't arrive at a solution of the mystery. Finally the conductors tackled it. The company had stood by us for years. It was from the line that we derived our bread and butter, and to think that the stockholders—generous, noble-minded humanitarians that they are—should be uncomfortable over the profits sting us to the quick. The fact was that the company, that for years had paid 20 per cent, was forced to reduce the percentage to 19 1/2."

"Well," said the policeman, expectantly.

"I am coming to it," continued the bell-puncher, leisurely. "We passed resolutions of condolence. That didn't seem to fit the case, so we determined on stronger measures. So on Friday we passed the self-sacrificing resolution that is destined to once more put the concern on its feet."

"What was that?" eagerly queried the officer.

"Each conductor," was the answer in a solemn whisper—"each conductor has sworn to register on every trip one more fare than he takes. The 10 cents extra for each journey, given to the corporation by its grateful employees, will just make up the difference between financial failure and financial success. We have sworn to keep the thing from the directors, satisfied that we shall reap our reward in another world."

The policeman then got off the car and stood for ten minutes on a street corner with his helmet in his hand and pondered.—Philadelphia Press.

Comforts of Modern Travel.

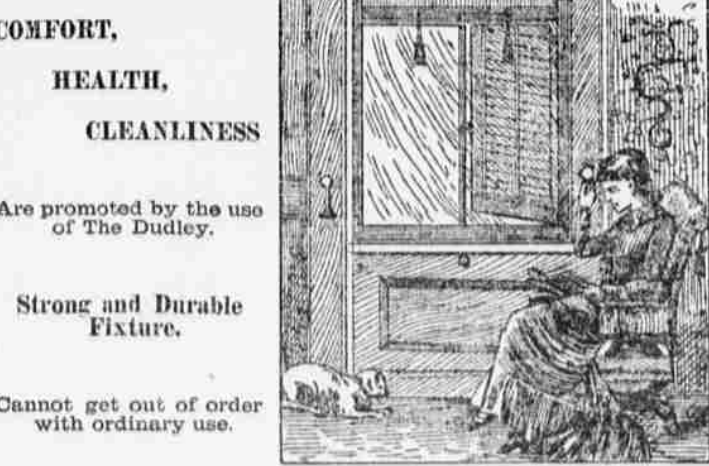
An old lady came into an Alton chair car the other day and plumped into one of the seats. She was evidently a green traveler. The curious construction of the chairs, the decorations of the car, and the passengers interested her for a time. Finally she spied the bell cord. She eyed it for a moment and then exclaimed:

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It obviates the necessity of raising windows in cold and stormy weather or when you wish to open or close your blinds. It prevents all slamming and rattling of blinds, so annoying to those within the room, especially to sick and nervous persons. It also saves breakage of glass and damage to the blinds themselves. It can be operated by a child, with no danger of falling out of the window, thus often saving the trouble of climbing several flights of stairs. It forms a complete lock to the blinds when closed, which cannot be tampered with from the outside. It is a strong and durable fixture, which cannot get out of order with ordinary use. It is cheaper in the end than the common blind fasteners now in use. It costs but little more than the old fasteners and fixtures for blinds in new houses, and no more to put it in. It converts the use of inside blinds (which catch dust and cobwebs, because by this fixture the outside blinds can be opened and closed as easily as inside blinds. The attention of Architects, Builders, and Carpenters is especially requested.

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I also call attention to my specialty of Fine Carpenting, Repairing, Etc.

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